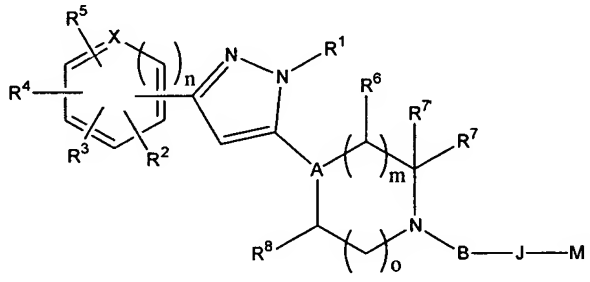
AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

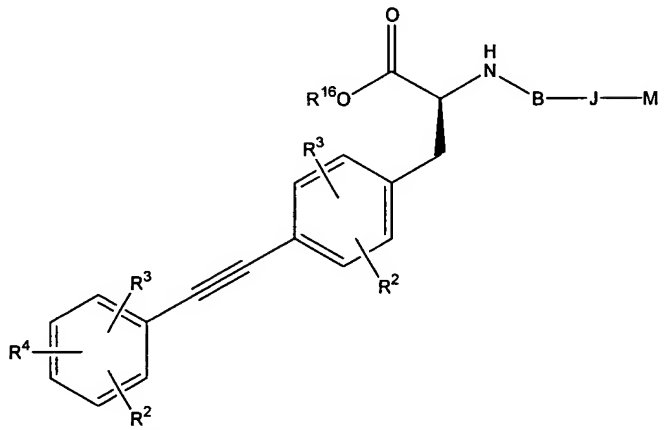
Amend the paragraphs commencing on page 3, line 1, through page 5, line 25 as follows (changes are highlighted):

In a first aspect, this invention is compounds of formula I or formula I'



I

where:



I'

m is an integer selected from 0, 1, and 2;

n and o are integers independently selected from 0 and 1;

A is selected from the group consisting of N and CH;

B is selected from the group consisting of $-CH_2-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-CH_2-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-CH_2-NH-$, $-CH_2-O-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-S-CH_2-$, $-C(=O)-NH-$, $-C(=O)-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-C(=O)-NH-$, $-C(=O)-CH_2-C(=O)-$, $-C(=O)-NH-CH_2-$, $-C(=O)-$, $-S(=O)-$, $-S(=O)_2-$, $-S(=O)-NH-$, $-S(=O)_2-NH-$, $-S(=O)-CH_2-$, $-S(=O)_2CH_2-$, $-S(=O)-CH_2-NH-$, $-S(=O)_2-CH_2-NH-$, $-S(=O)_2-NH-CH_2-$, $-CH_2-S(=O)_2-NH-$, $-C(=O)-NH-S(=O)_2-$, $-S(=O)_2-NH-C(=O)-$, $-C(=O)-CH_2-S(=O)_2-$, and $-S(=O)_2-CH_2-C(=O)-$;

J is absent or selected from the group consisting of –O-, -S-, -CHR^{15}-O-, -CH$_2$-CHR^{15}-O-, -NH-, -NH-CHR^{15}-, -NH-(C$_2$-C$_6$alkyl)-, -NH-CHR^{15}-C(=O)-, -C(=O)-, -CH$_2$-, -CHR^{15}-CH$_2$-NH-, -C(=O)-CHR^{15}-, -NH-C(=O)-CH(C$_1$-C$_6$alkyl)-, -NH-C(=O)-CH(C$_3$-C$_{12}$cycloalkyl)-, -CH$_2$-CH$_2$-, -CH$_2$NH-, -CH$_2$-NH-C(=O)-, -CH$_2$-NH-C(=O)-C$_1$-C$_6$alkyl-, -CH$_2$-NH-C(=O)-CH(C$_3$-C$_{12}$cycloalkyl)- and –C(=O)-CHR^{15}-NH-;

L is selected from the group consisting of –O-, –CH$_2$-O-, -O-CH$_2$-, -CH$_2$-CH$_2$-O-, -O-CH$_2$-CH$_2$-, -CH$_2$-O-CH$_2$-, -CH$_2$-S-CH$_2$-, -C(=O)-NH-, -O-C(=O)-NH-, -CH$_2$-C(=O)-NH-, -C(=O)-CH$_2$-NH-, -C(=O)-NH-CH$_2$-, -NH-C(=O)-, NH-C(=O)-O-, -NH-CH$_2$-C(=O)-, -NH-C(=O)-CH$_2$-, -CH$_2$-NH-C(=O)-, -NH-C(=O)-NH-, -NH-S(=O)$_2$-NH-, -NH-S(=O)$_2$-, -NH-S(=O)$_2$-CH$_2$-, -CH$_2$-NH-S(=O)$_2$-, -S(=O)$_2$-NH-, -S(=O)$_2$-NH-CH$_2$-, -CH$_2$-S(=O)$_2$-NH-, -C(=O)-NH-S(=O)$_2$-, -S(=O)$_2$-NH-C(=O)-, -CH$_2$-NH-, -CH$_2$-CH$_2$-NH-, -NH-CH$_2$-, -NH-CH$_2$-CH$_2$-, -CH$_2$-NH-CH$_2$-, -C≡C-, -CH$_2$-C≡C-, -CH$_2$-CH$_2$-, -CH$_2$-CH$_2$-CH$_2$-, -CH$_2$-CH=CH-, CH=CH-CH$_2$-, and –CH=CH-;

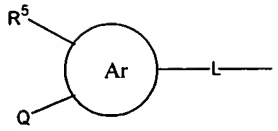
M is selected from the group consisting of R^9 and an optionally substituted group selected from phenyl, naphthyl, C$_3$-C$_7$-cycloalkyl, and heterocyclyl, the heterocyclyl group being aliphatic, partially unsaturated, or aromatic, and containing 1 or 2 rings each containing 5-7 ring atoms of which 0-3 are hetero atoms selected from N, O and S, provided that at least one ring contains a heteroatom and where any ring carbon or sulfur may optionally be oxidized, the optional substituents being up to three groups selected from R^1, R^2 and R^9;

Q is selected from the group consisting of –C(=O)OR^{16}, -C(=O)-NH-C(=O)-CF$_3$, -C(=O)-NH-S(=O)$_2$-R^2, -C(=O)-NR^1-OH, 5-oxo-4,5-dihydro[1,2,4]oxadiazol-3-yl, and tetrazolyl;

X is A when n is 1, and is CH, N, O or S when n is 0;

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, (C$_1$-C$_6$)alkyl, halo-(C$_1$-C$_6$)alkyl, and (C$_3$-C$_6$)cycloalkyl;

R^2, R^3 and R^5 are individually selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, cyano, nitro, phenyl, phenoxy, benzyl, C$_1$-C$_6$alkyl, halo, halo-C$_1$-C$_6$alkyl, C$_3$-C$_6$cycloalkyl, C$_1$-C$_6$alkoxy, hydroxy, C$_1$-C$_2$alkoxy-methoxy, hydroxy-C$_1$-C$_6$alkyl, formyl, C$_1$-C$_6$alkylcarbonyl, amino, C$_1$-C$_6$alkylamino, aminocarbonyl, C$_1$-C$_6$alkylaminocarbonyl, formylamino, and C$_1$-C$_6$alkylcarbonylamino, where any alkyl or phenyl may optionally be substituted with halo or Q;

R^4 is selected from the group consisting of R^2 and 

where Ar is a homo- or hetero-aryl group having 1 or 2 rings, each ring containing 5, 6 or 7 ring atoms of which 1-3 may be heteroatoms selected from N, O and S;

R^6 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, halo, halo-C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_6cycloalkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_6alkoxy-C_1-C_6alkyl, hydroxy, hydroxy-C_1-C_6alkyl, HC(=O)-C_1-C_6alkyl, carboxy, carboxy-C_1-C_6alkyl, carbonylamino-C_1-C_6alkyl, aminocarbonyl, (C_1-C_6alkyl)aminocarbonyl, di(C_1-C_6alkyl)aminocarbonyl, and aminocarbonyl-C_1-C_6alkyl;

R^7 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6 alkyl, halo, halo-C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_6cycloalkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_6alkoxy-C_1-C_6alkyl, hydroxy, hydroxy-C_1-C_6alkyl, HC(=O)-C_1-C_6alkyl, carboxy, carboxy-C_1-C_6alkyl, carbonylamino-C_1-C_6alkyl, aminocarbonyl, (C_1-C_6alkyl)aminocarbonyl, di(C_1-C_6alkyl)aminocarbonyl, and aminocarbonyl-C_1-C_6alkyl;

$R^{7'}$ is [hydrogren]hydrogen; or

R^7 and $R^{7'}$ together with the carbon to which they are bonded form –C(=O)-;

R^8 is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, C_1-C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_6alkyl, halo, halo-C_1-C_6alkyl, and C_3-C_6cycloalkyl;

R^9 is selected from the group consisting of $-NR^{10}R^{11}$, $-C(=NR^{12})-NHR^{13}$, $-N=CR^{14}-NR^{10}R^{11}$, $-NR^{13}-CR^{14}=NR^{12}$, [and]$-NR^{13}-C(=NR^{12})-NHR^{13}$, =NH, and -CH=NH;

R^{10}, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{13} and R^{14} are independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxy, hydroxy-C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkyl, halo-C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_6alkoxy-C_1-C_6alkyl, and C_3-C_7 cycloalkyl; or any member of the group R^{10}, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{13}, and R^{14} together with the nitrogen to which it is attached forms a 5, 6 or 7 member heterocycle with any other member of the group, the heterocycle optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from N, O and S;

R^{15} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_3-C_7cycloalkyl, aminocarbonyl, C_1-C_6alkylaminocarbonyl, and di(C_1-C_6alkyl)aminocarbonyl; and

R^{16} is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_{13}cycloalkyl, C_6-C_{10}aryl, acetylamino-C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_1-C_6alkylcarbonyloxy-C_1-C_6alkyl, and C_6-C_{10}aryl-C_0-C_6alkylcarbonyloxy-C_1-C_6alkyl, and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof;

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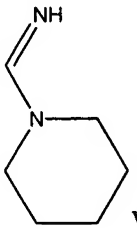
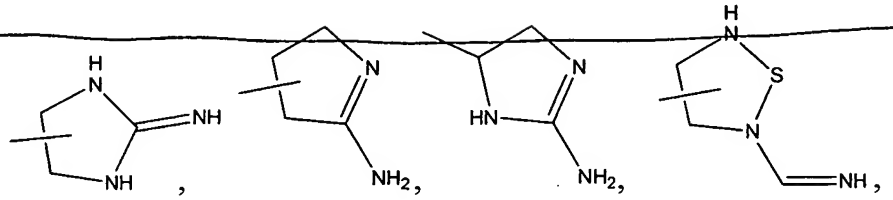
provided that the compound is not N-[2-[1-(aminoiminomethyl)-3-piperidinyl]-1-oxoethyl]-4-phenylethynyl-phenylalanine methyl ester or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Replace the data on Page 10, lines 5-11 with the following data (the only change is the addition of a connecting bond to 

which was inadvertently omitted in the previously filed preliminary amendment):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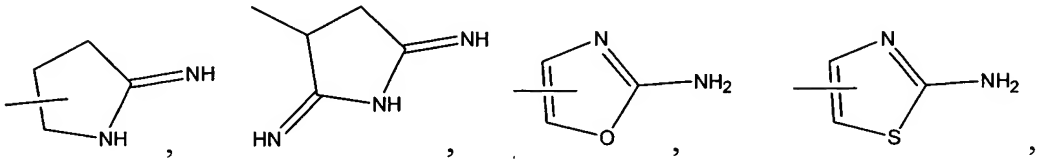
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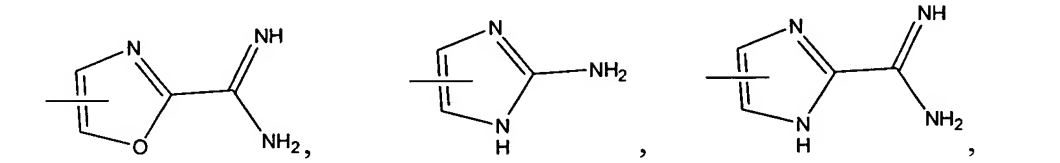
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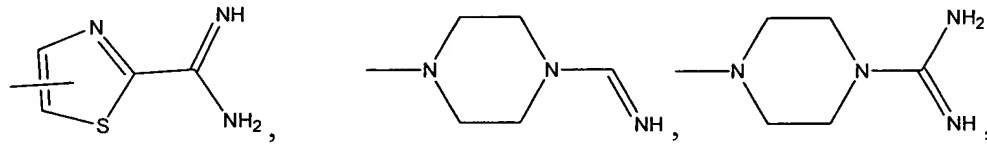
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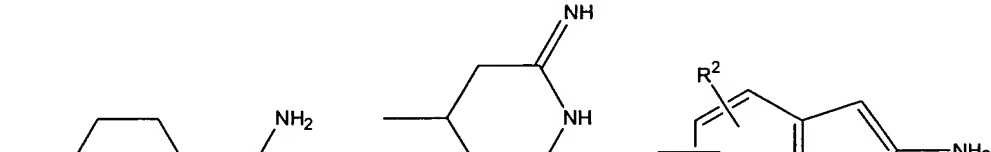
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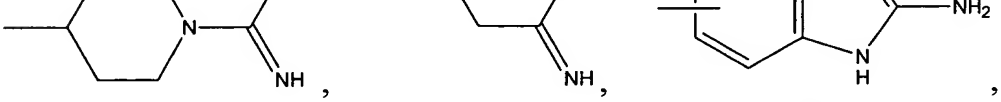
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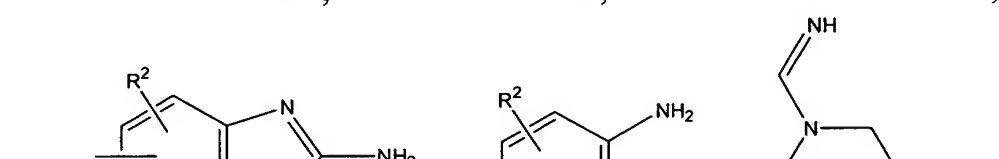
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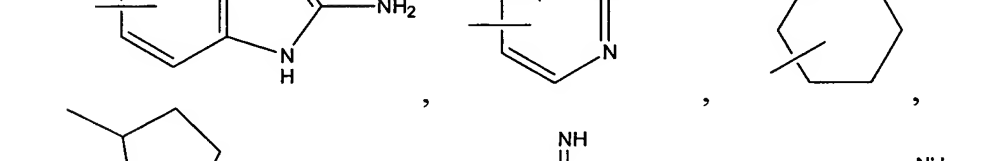
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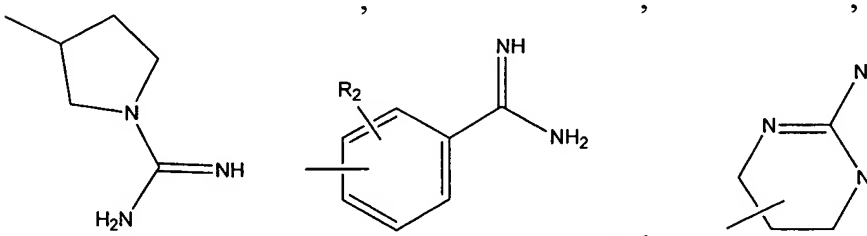
and ;

B2